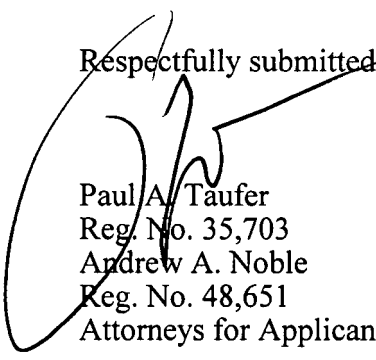## Remarks

Claims 1-149 are currently pending in the present Application. Claims 1-5, 8, 66-70, 95-97, 108, 129, 130 and 148 are currently rejected. Claims 6, 7, 9-65, 71-94, 98-107, 109-128, 131-147 and 149 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. The Examiner is again thanked for granting an interview with the Applicants' representative. Independent claims 1, 95, 129 and 148 have been amended in accordance with the interview. As such, the Applicants hereby submit the following amendment for consideration.

Initially, the Applicants aim to further clarify the novel features recited in the present Application. As currently amended, claim 1 recites "creating a package associated with a vault, the package comprising data..." and "storing the data in a vault..." Support for this claim amendment can be found, for example, at page 5, lines 6-8 of the specification. The vault is "dedicated hard drive space" (e.g., a partition) which may include both internal and external security. The combination of a vault-specific package with permissions, internal security and external security combine to make the existence of the vault (and its contents) invisible to a user without the required permission for accessing the data. Specifically, the user is not merely unaware of the location of the restricted data, but due to the combination of these novel features, the user is kept unaware of the existence of the restricted data. Therefore, the user can neither intend to access the restricted data, nor stumble upon the restricted data inadvertently.

Claims 1-5, 8, 66-70, 95-97, 108, 129, 130 and 148 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,933,498 to Schneck et al. ("Schneck") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,1663,859 to Lee et al. ("Lee"). Schneck appears to describe a method and device for controlling access to a data memory location. Particularly, in sharp contrast to the combination of permissions, internal and external security described in the present Application, Schneck does not describe a security system for preventing the awareness of secured data at a particular memory location. While the Applicants concede that the user in Schneck cannot access the content of the secured data unless the user has access rights, the particular memory location where the data is located is not independently secured. The risk therefore still exists that a user, once aware of the existence of the memory location, could still seek to devise a way to access the data.

The Examiner has indicated that Lee has been cited solely for the purpose of providing a hard drive to the invention described by Schneck. However, Lee does not describe a hard drive that is partitioned or dedicated in any way, and Schneck does not provide permissions associated with a particular partition or dedicated hard drive space. Therefore, the combination of Schneck and Lee does not provide data security for a dedicated hard drive space. As such, a user with access to the hard drive described by Lee may still obtain knowledge of the location of secured data and could use this knowledge to devise an attempt to access the data. Therefore, the combination of Schneck and Lee does not describe the features of the present Application. As such, the Applicants respectfully transverse the grounds for rejection, the reconsideration of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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